

An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a calm lake reflects the sky, surrounded by green fields and dense evergreen forests. The middle ground shows rolling hills and valleys covered in similar vegetation. In the background, a range of rugged mountains with patches of snow stretches across the horizon under a clear sky.

Grizzly Bear Advisory Council University of Montana, December 5, 2019 *Programs to Help Prevent or Address Conflicts*

Gary Burnett, Heart of the Rockies Initiative

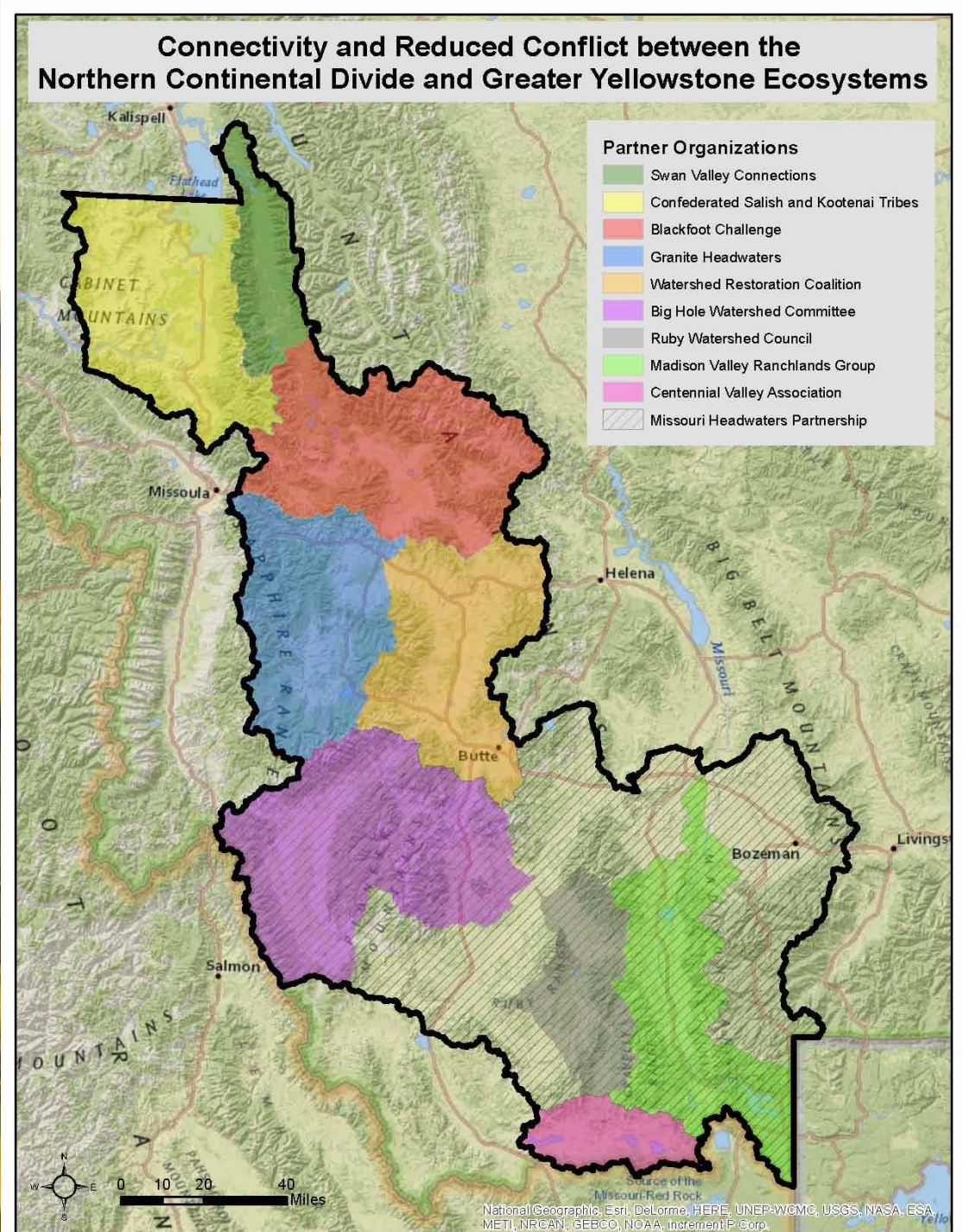
Elements of wildlife connectivity (as adopted from IGBC NCDE)

- agricultural conflict reduction
- education and information
- land protection
- transportation crossings



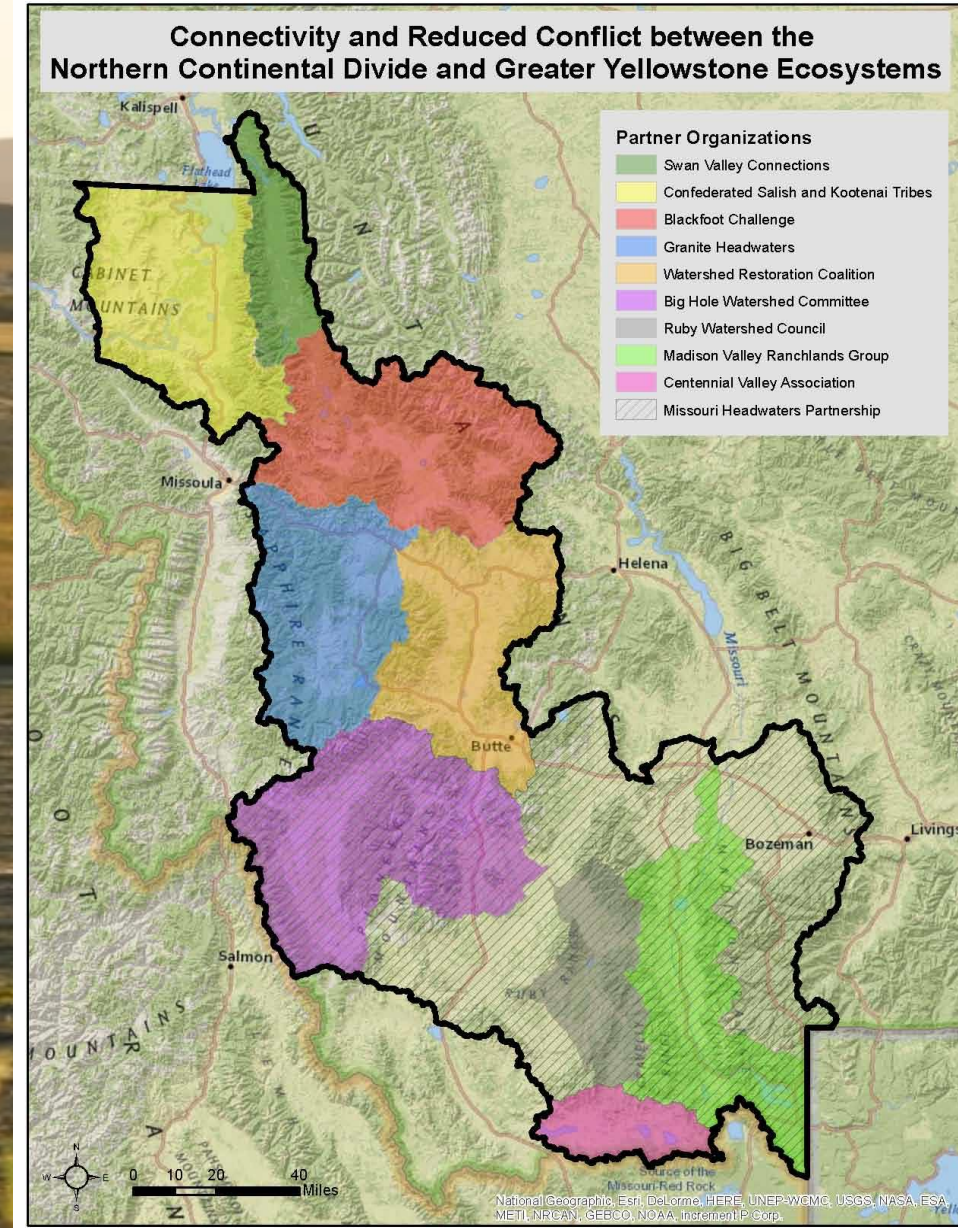
Partnership of landowner-led groups

- Big Hole Watershed Committee
- Bitterroot – Lolo *new in 2019*
- Blackfoot Challenge
- Centennial Valley Association
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Granite Headwaters
- Madison Valley Ranchlands Group
- Missouri Headwaters Partnership
- Ruby Watershed Council
- Swan Valley Connections – SVBR
- Watershed Restoration Coalition



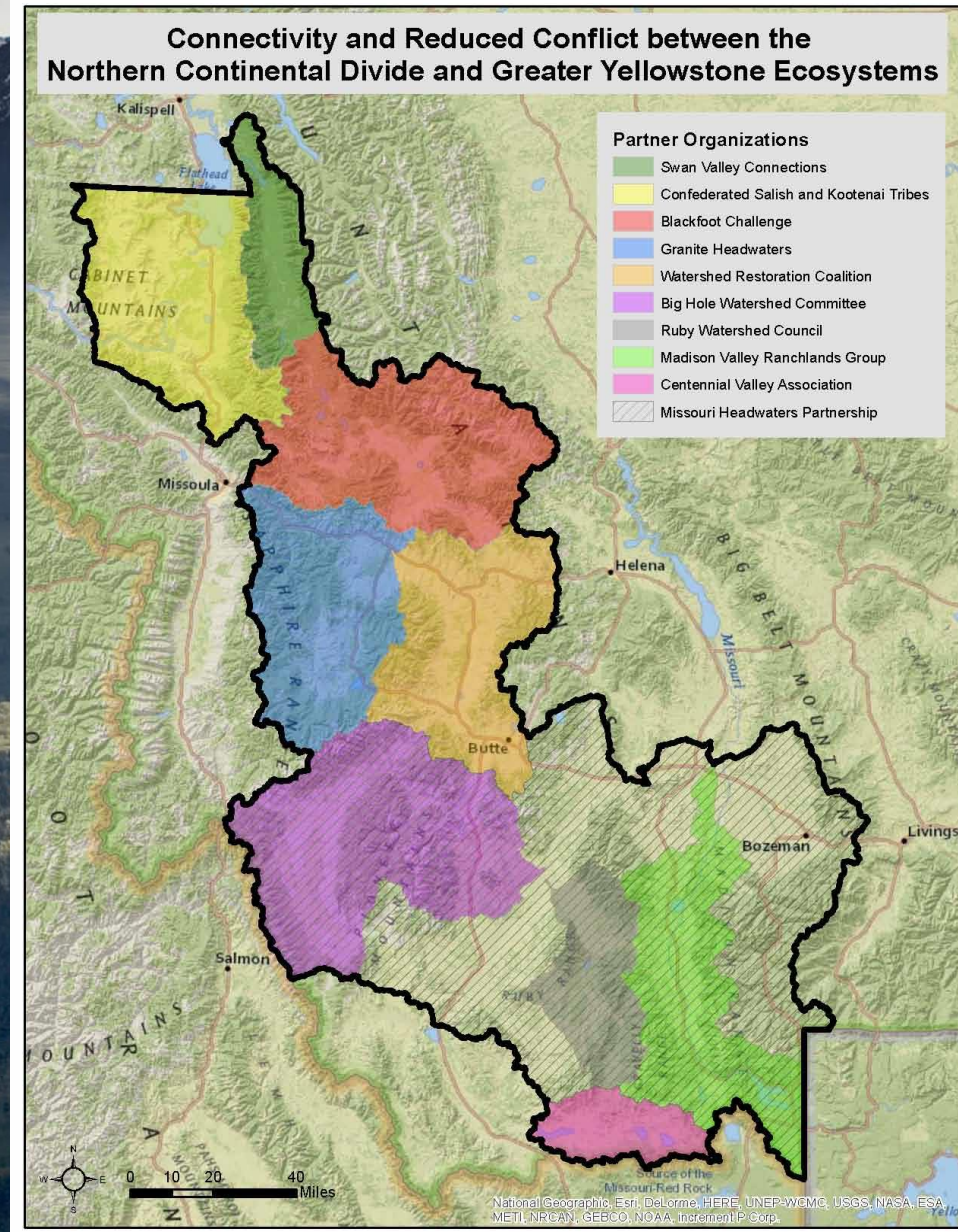
Conflict reduction activities for connectivity

- 7.2 of 9.2 million-acre goal **deadstock removal**
- Three of five **composting** sites
- Three million acres **range riding**
- **Fencing** attractants like calves and chickens
- **Bear-resistant** garbage cans



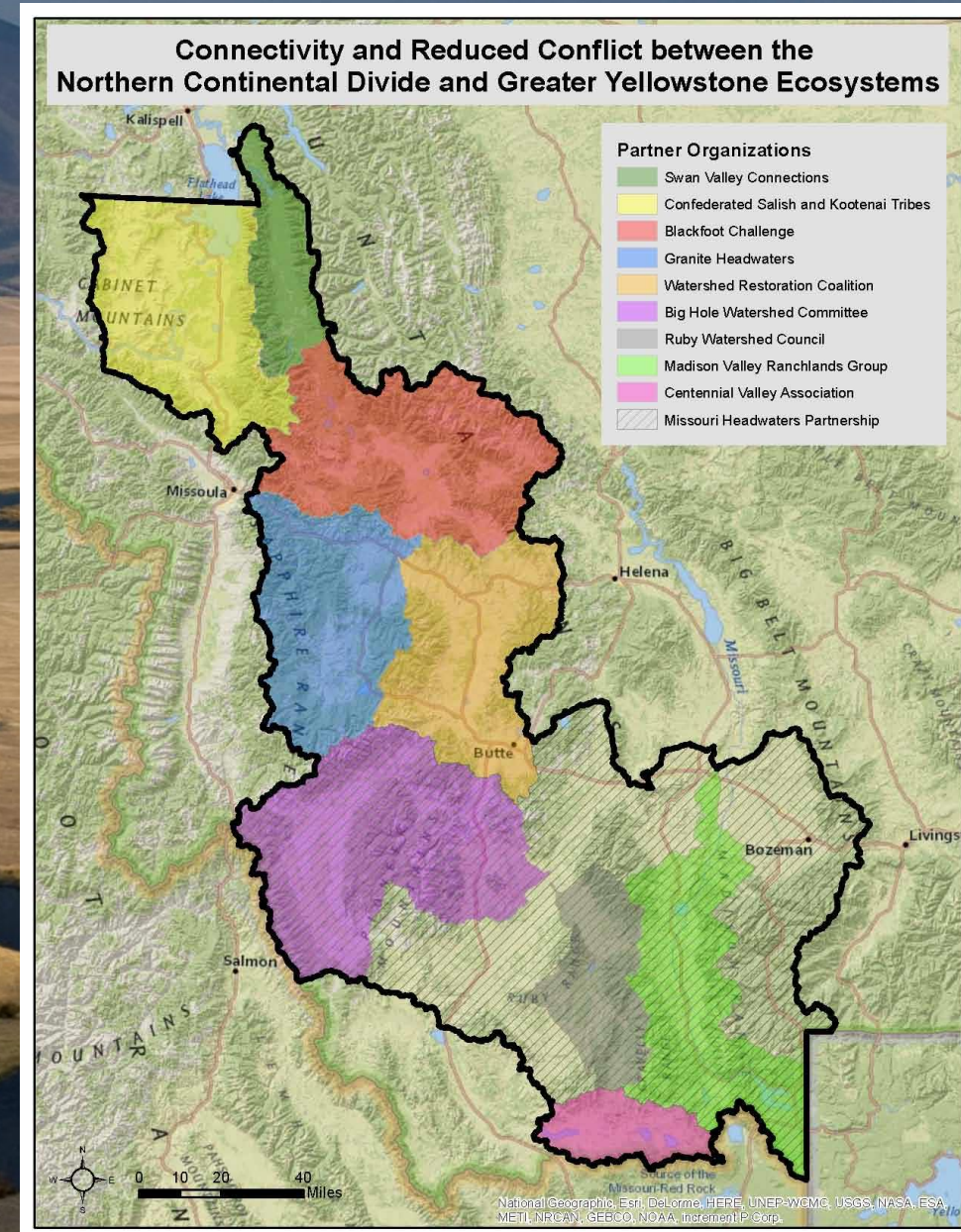
Sustaining and expanding conflict reduction

- Sustain funding for current programs
- Expand funding where requested
- Long-term program assistance/funding
 - NRCS EQIP conservation practices
 - Animal mortality facility
 - Fence
 - Prescribed grazing



Yale School of Forestry Conservation Finance Recommendations

- Aggregate funding sources and combine projects
 - *National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funding*
- Developing reliable annual funding source to maintain core programs
 - *Modify NRCS conservation practices*
- Distribute funding through a neutral party
 - *Montana Livestock Loss Board*
- Paying for outcomes, rather than actions
 - *allow local flexibility in use of conflict reduction tools*



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Thank you

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